READER'S DIGEST
ROVING EDITOR • *Henry Hurt*
PLEASANTVILLE, N.Y. 10570

April 13, 1983

Dear Harold,

I am terribly sorry about your court case, and I hope that Sissi will return from her visit with you bearing full details.

Many thanks for your letter on my Chapter IX. I value and appreciate every comment you have time to give me. You are probably right about Nosenko, but I want so much to avoid that to whatever extent possible, simply because I gave so much space to it in Shadrin (unjustified!), and of course we spent so much time on it in Legend. Earlier use of the material certainly does not justify handling it improperly, but you can see why in my position I would want to boil it down to the tightest possible package. Between us, I've got Hosty howling in my ears to spend several pages on Kostikov, and I think he will be terribly angry when he sees how I've handled his part of this. I want, of course, to be fair to Hosty, but obviously I cannot put him ahead of trying to keep the book in balance. While Kostikov might be extremely important in some ways, I must always ask myself if the issue is critical to contributing to a broad understanding without losing readers who might feel it is becoming esoteric.

Indeed, let's do this on the phone. I do not plan to return to this chapter for about a month or so, and we can talk then. I remain, of course, so very grateful for your willingness to help.

Best,

CHATHAM, VIRGINIA 24531
Telephone: 804 432-1400